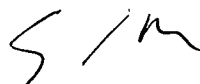


Conclusion

In conclusion, the Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-68 and 70-145 are patentable for the reasons set forth above, and that the application is now in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at 858-456-1951 for any reason that would advance the instant application to issue.

Dated this the 14th day of January, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



STEVEN G. ROEDER
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 37,227

THE LAW OFFICE OF STEVEN G. ROEDER
5560 Chelsea Avenue
La Jolla, California 92037
Telephone: (858) 456-1951